

Grants Policy

1. Context

- 1.1. One of CHARM-EU's core values is inclusivity. We strongly believe in the power of diversity. Learning and growing in a diverse environment leads to the personal development and cultural enrichment of all students. We understand that diversity can take many forms, and we are aware of the potential sensitivity of disclosing the nature of the circumstances.
- 1.2. Many structural barriers inequalities persist for students when accessing and participating in higher education. Financial support is strongly correlated with postsecondary completion, and it, even more, applies to underrepresented groups.

2. Purpose

- 2.1. The Grants Policy aims to minimise barriers that hinder the access and participation of students who meet all the admission requirements and cannot access other grants and scholarships.
- 2.2. CHARM-EU strives to create an inclusive and human-centred approach according to the core values of CHARM-EU inclusiveness ethos.

3. Benefits

- 3.1. Provide guidelines to safely acquire information about individual need for financial aid.
- 3.2. Support the Academic Council and the DEI Office to make consistent and reliable decisions.
- 3.3. Clarify the process and opportunities for grants among CHARM-EU partners.

4. Scope

- 4.1. The provisions set out in this Grants Policy will be limited by the scope set in the CHARM-EIGHT Grant Agreement and MSc in Global Challenges for Sustainability Cooperation Agreement and the applicable law.
- 4.2. The scope of this Grants Policy is solely for the CHARM-EU MSc in Global Challenges for Sustainability (120 ECTS version).

5. Principles

- 5.1. Affordability and accessibility: to safeguard equity in access to and participation in higher education for students with various backgrounds, own lived experiences, access needs.
- 5.2. Data Protection: Any information collected or related communications will be stored and managed by the DEI Office and the responsible partner for data processing according to the CHARM-EU Data Protection Agreement in compliance with GDPR and confidentiality agreements between the applicant and the DEI Office.
- 5.3. Transparency: guarantee accessibility to grants through an easy and open to public system.

6. Definitions

- 6.1. Tuition Fee: includes lectures, seminars, tutorials, access to library and information technology facilities and course administration. It does not include living expenses, accommodation, travel and visa costs, textbooks or additional services, admissions fee, or student levies or charges that may be compulsory in some CHARM-EU partners. The reservation fee is considered as a partial payment of the tuition fee
- 6.2. Phase mobility: Compulsory student mobility for one semester, at least once per Master Edition throughout the partner universities.
- 6.3. Short term mobilities: Master mobility between one week and one month between the partner universities.

- 6.4. Starting university: the institution where the student starts the Master Programme.
This University does not need to match with permanent address residence.
- 6.5. Student: An individual who has formally applied, admitted and enrolled in the CHARM-EU MSc in Global Challenges for Sustainability.

7. Policy

- 7.1. This policy aims to tackle those risks that have been foreseen regarding the lack of funding or regulations that do not address the specificities of the Master's Program.
- 7.2. CHARM-EU Grants
 - 7.2.1. CHARM-EU grants provide financial support for tuition fees and/or offer aid specifically for the compulsory phase mobility component.
 - 7.2.2. CHARM-EU can also grant financial aid for short mobilities to guarantee mobility besides the Erasmus + limitations with a wider definition of Starting University.
 - 7.2.3. The criteria are established by the Academic Council and are described on the CHARM-EU website.
 - 7.2.4. The amount of grants and its quantity (in Euros) will be limited by the provisions set from the Executive Board with consultation with the Programme Board.
 - 7.2.5. Only admitted students from European Union countries are eligible for a CHARM-EU grant.
 - 7.2.6. CHARM-EU tuition fee grant holders should not receive grant awards for tuition fees from any other avenue.
 - 7.2.7. In line with the capacity and resources of CHARM-EU, the grants are limited to 5% of the total students enrolled in the corresponding edition of the Master's.
 - 7.2.8. In order to manage properly limited resources, a ranking of eligibility prioritized groups has been created by the Inclusivity Team:

- a) Low-income/ low socioeconomic background
- b) Instability of income
- c) Employment circumstances
- d) Loans and debts
- e) Geographical location
- f) Civil/family circumstances
- g) Health and other social needs
- h) With children/caring
- i) Disability/mental health, chronic illnesses
- j) Immigration status
- k) Orphan status
- l) Have been displaced within, or beyond, their home country due to conflict or violation of human rights, such as persecution, refugee, an asylum seeker, an individual with long residency in the EU but who is unable to access government support, a stateless individual, undocumented individuals
- m) Any other hardship or experience of discrimination and emergency can be documented/justified to be eligible.

7.2.9. CHARM-EU grants will be paid by partners.

7.2.10. The phase mobility financial aid is paid following the Erasmus + grants instalments.

7.3. Financial aid for short term mobilities

7.3.1. Short term mobilities call from Erasmus + does not consider the different meaning of Starting Universities within European Universities alliances. This financial aid aims to guarantee mobility besides the Erasmus + limitations with a wider definition of Starting University.

7.3.2. The students can apply to CHARM-EU short term mobilities financial aid when:

- a) They are not eligible to an Erasmus + for a Blended Intensive Program (BIP).
- b) They must move to another location where the activities are carried out.

7.3.3. Short-term mobilities are financed from partners share.

7.3.4. Short term mobilities take the form of a flat rate reimbursement. The final amount (in Euros) is calculated from Erasmus+ guidelines. In any case this amount can exceed the Erasmus+ fares unless duly justified.

8. Responsibility

The Academic Council are responsible for setting, revising and implementing the grants policy annually.

9. Related Documents

9.1. Tuition Fee Policy

10. Document Control

Date of initial approval: Academic Council 07/02/2025

Date policy effective from: 07/02/2025

Date of next review: Academic year 2027/2028